

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A conveyor dishwasher having at least one washing zone, at least one rinsing zone, a drying zone, a suction-extraction location for an exhaust-air stream and a transporting device for conveying wash ware in ~~the a~~ transporting direction through the conveyor dishwasher, ~~characterized in that~~ the conveyor dishwasher further comprising:

nozzles for blowing hot air into the drying zone;

nozzles in the washing zone; wherein

flow can be regulated from at least one of (1) the nozzles for blowing hot air into the drying zone and (2) the nozzles in the washing zone; whereby

the exhaust-air stream is produced in the dishwasher counter to the transporting direction of the wash ware through the dishwasher ~~by regulated action on flow from the drying zone and/or the washing zone.~~

2. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the suction-extraction location for extracting the exhaust-air stream by suction is arranged in the region of an inlet of the dishwasher.

3. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein

a drying fan is arranged in the drying ~~zone~~ zone; and

the nozzles for blowing hot air into the drying zone are ~~has~~ pivotably designed exit nozzles assigned ~~to it~~ to the drying fan.

4. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein volumes of exhaust air passing out of the drying zone are dependent on the position of the exit nozzles.

5. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein, in ~~the a~~ first position of the pivotably arranged exit nozzles within the drying zone, the dishwasher can be operated without clouds of steam at the inlet and outlet.

6. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a second quantity of air which can be channeled away out of the drying zone can be varied in dependence on the pivoting position of the exit nozzles of the drying fan.

7. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a deflecting surface is accommodated in the region of the drying zone, beneath ~~exit the~~ nozzles for blowing hot air into the drying zone.

8. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the deflecting surface is of essentially horizontal design and runs beneath the device for transporting the wash ware.

9. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein

the drying zone is assigned a separating curtain on the outlet side, as seen in the transporting direction of the wash ware, and
this separating curtain bounds an intake opening via which an external-air stream can be taken into the drying zone.

10. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ the capacity of a fan of and further comprising

a heat-recovery device and a fan assigned to the heat recovery device; and wherein
the capacity of the fan is dependent on a quantity of air which can be channeled away out of the drying zone.

11. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the exhaust-air stream which is extracted via the suction-extraction location corresponds ~~to the~~ to external-air streams which are taken in ~~via the~~ via intake openings.

12. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the exit nozzles within the drying zone can be adjusted by electromotive, pneumatic or hydraulic means or mechanically via levers.

13. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the exit nozzles can be adjusted in the pivoting direction during operation of the conveyor dishwasher.

14. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the exhaust-air stream is regulated by means of a speed-regulated fan assigned to a heat-recovery device.

15. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 3, ~~characterized in that the~~ wherein a position of the exit nozzles and/or the a capacity of the a fan of the a heat-recovery device are/is regulated in dependence on operating states of the dishwasher and/or on at least one of the following process parameters: temperature (τ), moisture content (x) in the drying zone or at the inlet and outlet.

16. (currently amended) The conveyor dishwasher as claimed in claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the regulation of the a manipulated-variable position of the exit nozzles and/or the capacity of the drive of the fan are/is regulated in dependence on at least one of (1) wash ware which is present in the drying zone, ~~on~~ (2) the moisture content (x) of the hot air which is circulating in the drying zone ~~and/or on~~ and (3) the temperature (τ) prevailing in the drying zone.